

THE COMSTOCK EXCITEMENT.

Disasterous Results Following the Great Discovery.

The volcanic excitement incident to the discovery of the Comstock Lode in Nevada, the Indian War, with the death of Major Ormsby and Fred Storey, the rapidity of the building of the splendid wagon road from Placerville, with its six horse stages, Wells Fargo's fast freight lines and the large number of ten and twelve-mule teams that were brought into service to carry all kinds of supplies for the building up of Virginia City and developing the mines, stands unprecedent in the history of the Pacific coast. The people of San Francisco went wild; the spirit of speculation was in the air and most of the tempting schemes were nothing else. Cautious and conservative business men were drawn into the maelstrom of gambling. Men made fortunes in a day to lose the same quickly.

Stock gambling and the selling of shares in mines that had no existence except upon the paper that the president's and secretary's names were written upon, was carried on as a legitimate business. The streets of San Francisco were lined with curbstone operators who traded and exchanged their bits of worthless paper for all kinds of property and even real estate. John Laws' South Sea bubble was an honest enterprise in comparison.

Many men saw their opportunity to make money if they could go into new localities and locate claims and incorporate and dispose of stock, and in a short time thousands were scattered into Arizona, Humboldt, Reese river, White Pine and other districts with the result that San Francisco was flooded with mining stocks representing mines everywhere. Many who had been unsuccessful in their efforts to locate anything, took from some other man's dump a few specimens of ore and had no trouble in finding parties that would act as directors and in a few days the company would be in operation and selling stock in a mine the whole of which was brought into the city in the man's pocket. Nearly all those engaged in locating mines for this purpose had little or no knowledge of mining and were liable to bring in any kind of old rock and did not know how to tell silver from yellow soap or silver in a horn, which most of the specimens proved to be on assay. The stock certificates that were printed of these wildcat and swindling operations would have papered the city.

There were, however, undoubtedly some good mines discovered during the time. Later on Lee and General Cobb, the auctioneers, sold stocks until people would not take them away at any price and the wildcat bubble was exploded. But the gambling continued unabated in the Comstocks, fabulous prices being paid sometimes for the shares. Andrew McCreary who had been a porter in a front street store, sold a hundred shares in the Gould & Curry for over \$750,000. Hale & Norcross sold as high as \$9000 a share. Other shares in different mines on the Comstock reached fabulous figures. Belcher and Crown Point, after the fires in these mines, went down to a dollar per share. When the bonanza was struck that made Senator Jones, Seth Cook and many others millionaires, the stock in both mines advanced to \$2200 per share from a dollar. Jas. R. Keene, the great New York Wall street king, who used to drive a milk wagon in the town of Shasta, sold out his milk business and with a few hundred dollars started speculating in stocks and I believe lost on the start, but after the pin feathers started he soon became a full fledged daring broker and a power on the board.

The history of the manipulating of the Comstock is partly a sealed book. The ruin and robbery and thousands of times the space that there is in the Encyclopedia Britannica. The graves of the suicide and heartbroken cover their secrets. I believe the Comstock Exchange has been a swindle from the start and how much longer its baleful influence will affect legitimate mining is hard to tell, for as long as suckers will patronize the losing brace game and be fleeced of their coin the knavery will continue.

Along in the sixties, just before the great Diamond swindle was foisted upon some of the prominent men of San Francisco, among the number being Wm. C. Ralston, who was mulcted for \$50,000, besides having to make good the losses of several of his friends that he had advised to invest in it, honestly thinking that it was a good thing, there were rumors among certain favored ones of a strike some place of very rich ore of antimonial silver that assayed fifteen thousand dollars per ton, and as the rumor grew

from day to day of a fabulously great mountain of the rich ore, people became anxious and were worked up to a fever heat. At last the discoverer made himself known to a select few (moneyed men) and in the greatest secrecy imparted to them how he made the discovery and exhibited pieces of the ore, which they had assayed, and the more they tested, the more interested and excited they became. For reasons he explained he gave them no clue or idea of the location. That remained a mystery.

This man's name was Bailey and those interested formed a company. People ran after him and forced him to accept thousands of dollars, one man giving him ten thousand dollars in coin. Many others put up large amounts, but it was all done secretly. They all wanted an interest in a good thing and they got it. Bailey informed his partners that he had not yet secured his location and said he would go alone and not let any one know when he went, as he would be sure to be followed; in fact, he was under surveillance all the time by men that were so determined to follow him to his discovery that he was never left out of sight. People were wild. Interests he had sold to parties they sold again at a big advance, yet no one knew where the mine was and did not know anything of the antecedents of Bailey. He was a tall, fine-looking man about forty years of age, pretty well bronzed up with the sun and dressed like a prospector.

At last he started for his mine, as stated by some of the knowing ones. There was already a company at Los Angeles to intercept him on his way out to the desert, as it was thought it was out there somewhere the discovery was made. There was another party in Kern county to intercept him if he went over Greenhorn. Others expected the find was made in Mexico, as very rich antimonial ore had been discovered in the State of Sonora.

Time passed away, weeks drifted into months and the cry became general: "Where is Bailey?" But Bailey has never shown up from that day to this. Among the effects that he left in his room was some of the ore that he had made himself out of antimony, lead and half dollars, as some of the pieces showed the shape of the crucible and in one piece of the manufactured ore a part of a half dollar that had not melted was plainly seen. This gave it all away and the common gag that had been going around of "Have you seen Bailey?" died out—David B. James, in Mining and Engineering Review.

Frank B. Alverson, the new owner of the Buckway, the beautiful Lake Tahoe resort, by his attorneys, Craig & Stoddard, filed a suit in ejectment against Marco Millicha a fisherman who has lived on the lake shore for many years and refuses to vacate under the new regime.—Journal.



SOCIETY MEN

by reason of their eminence in social circles must necessarily be all that is perfect in matters sartorial. Their dress requirements are most exacting and are subject to the most rigid and critical inspection. Gentlemen whose social duties call for the best in the tailor's art, together with strict exactness in the matter of style propriety, would do well to look into the merits of

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A SAD TAKING AWAY.

Mrs. R. H. Kelley is Called to Her Final Rest.

Late yesterday afternoon our small community was shocked by the sad intelligence that Mrs. Rube H. Kelley had passed to her final rest. While her demise was considered but the matter of a short time, the news cast a gloom over the entire city, for the deceased was possessed of all the qualities that go to make the best in womanhood. Mrs. Kelley had been ailing for the past several months and all that medical aid and loving hands could do availed but temporary relief. A kind and generous friend, a noble daughter and a worthy wife, she will be sadly missed at home and elsewhere.

Deceased was twenty-eight years and eight months of age and a native of New York City, but the greater part of her life has been spent in Carson.

Besides a kind and loving husband, she leaves to mourn her loss a mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Schulz, and two sisters, Misses Katherine and Anna Schulz, all of this city.

The funeral arrangements will be announced later.

LOOPE MINING NEWS.

H. W. Curtz Gives an Interesting Interview on that Section.

H. W. Curtz, of Loope, was an arrival yesterday afternoon. He met his father last evening, who, in company with W. M. Turner, of Besimer, Mich., has been in Inyo county inspecting mining property.

Regarding operations in the Loope country, Mr. Curtz stated that a new cable 4,000 feet in length has been put in place and that a new cyanide plant had been erected at the Curtz-Evans mine. The mine is looking good and bullion is being produced. He says that the Loope country is looking up in a mining way and that a number of mines which have been idle for years past will shortly resume operations among which he mentioned the old "Colorado," which will have been started up before he reaches home.

All in all, Loope is strictly on the map and at no distant date will be one of the best camps in this section.

"Our Wife" in Salt Lake.

There may be worse shows on the road than "Our Wife," which opened at the Grand last night, but they don't visit these parts—for which let us join in a paean of thanksgiving. A good crowd saw the performance. At least a good crowd saw part of it. Those who saw it all had no other place they could visit, not even home. Still, it is a pleasure to note one good feature. The orchestra played an admirable program of popular music.

"Our Wife" according to the program, was written "for laughing purposes only." Save the mark. There isn't an honest laugh in the play from beginning to end. It is dull, deadly dull talky talk throughout. If your nature is such that you sometimes find a thing so bad that it is good, go to see "Our Wife." Otherwise let it severely alone.—Salt Lake Herald.

Born.

In this city, October 5, 1906, to the wife of C. Beatty, a son.

NEXT SUNDAY'S ATTRACTION.

Music and Pleasure Will be the Order of the Day.

By special arrangements with the weather man, next Sunday will be of the fine and dandy sort. There will be just enough sunshine in all its refreshing glory. And to add to the charms of the day, the Reno Wheelmen Band, accompanied by a large number of people from the metropolis, are going to invade the garden city. Here they will be met by the Nevada State Band and shown the sights of the city. In the afternoon both bands will unite and give an open air concert in the beautiful grounds of the Capitol. The program will be a lengthy one and the compositions of the great composers and some of the lesser lights will be aired in a masterly fashion.

The Virginia & Truckee railroad has generously granted cheap rates that those who wish may attend and get their fill of the finest music ever rendered in this city by amateur bands.

After the concert the Wheelmen band, guests of honor of the day, will be banqueted by the local band. This banquet will be a fitting climax of the day and nothing is going to be overlooked on the menu. The tables will be attended to by Misses Martha Murphy, Lyle Burke, Lena Mara, Bessie Platt and Ida Platt.

One of Cherry Sisters Dead.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa, Oct. 5.—Word has been received here of the death of Miss Jessie Cherry at Hot Springs, Ark., where she was staying for the benefit of her health. The death recalls the famous and far known "Cherry Sisters," who were once the leading advertisements of Iowa, being the main attraction in eastern vaudeville concert halls. A dozen years ago the "Cherry Sisters" were on the tongue of every theatre goer as one of the hugest hoaxes of the times. Yet their unequalled audacity kept them on the stage, and they drew crowds of curious ones who were anxious to ascertain if they were really as poor as reported. The crowds down in this way made their fortune, and the girls earned enough to enable them to live the remainder of their lives in peace and plenty before the public became bored with them and refused to pay them their shekels.

Going Forward

here at all times. We are constantly seeking and receiving new goods to supply the demands of our customers. One is always sure to find the newest and best.

General Merchandise

here. Nothing that is good is left out of our purchases. Our practice of charging but a small profit counts. We give excellent value at moderate prices.

Ed. J. Walsh

"The Nevada Boy" AT THE NEW STORE THE WAGNER CORNER



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JOE PLATT,

The Pioneer Clothier.

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have arrived and to-morrow morning our exhibition of the new season's fashions will be open. We cordially invite you to be present on this occasion and bring your friends—you will be well repaid even if you only want to see what the correct styles are.

If you put yourself in our hands, you cannot be otherwise than well dressed. Every Suit, Top Coat, Hat or article of Haberdashery that is in our store is from the newest productions of the swiftest manufacturers of the country. We want you to see and appreciate the well-tailored and perfect fitting Suits and Fall Top Coats that we have selected, and particularly the magnificent values that we are offering, at

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